Representations from land loosers farmers association

1972. SHRIMATI URMILABEN: CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received a number of representations from Land Looser Farmers Association whose land had been taken over by Government between 1960 to 1993 for the IOC and IPCL and Koyali Refinery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the matter has been taken up by the Government of Gujarat a number of times and several Members of Parliament for providing adequate compensation and employment in these Organisations under the declared policy of Government; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken so far and proposed in future to settle this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Representation have been received from land losers association/ representation etc. regarding employment to the displaced families in IOC, Koyali Refinery Project.

IOC had acquired land in different phases during 1961 to 1992 for Koyali Refinery Project.

Representations were received in 1992 and again in 1997 expressing unemployment problems involving 650 land losers farmers. As on date 336 persons from land losers' families have already been provided employment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Parliamentary Committee of Lok Sabha Sectt. also paid a study visit to Gujarat Refinery on 24th June, 1997. The Committee had desired that the subject needs to be examined in depth by the District Collector, Baroda with a view to settling the issue once for all. The District collector is looking into the matter.

Demand for Enhancement of Royalty on Oil

1973. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asom Gana Parishad has demanded that the centre to stop cheating the oil-producing States and enhance their royalty either on the basis of international oil prices or on the basis of the actual sale of petroleum products, minus the actual and refining costs;

(b) if so, the decision taken or proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if Government are not prepared to increase royalty, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Government has received a memorandum from the President of Asom Gana Parishad requesting, inter-alia, revision of royalty on crude oil either on the basis of the international price of crude oil or in terms of the actual sales price of pertroleum products in the country minus all elements of actual and refining cost.

(b) Royalty in respect of mineral oil (defined as including petroleum and natural gas) is payable under the provisions of Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948. This Act, inter-alia, provides that the Government shall not fix the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral oil so as to exceed 20% of the sale price of the mineral oil at the oilfields or the oil well-head, as the case may be. Any change in this provision will require an amendment to the Act.

(c) The 'on account' rate of royalty on crude oil has already been enhanced from